

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 CAIRO 13533 161048Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /026 W
-----050617 161214Z /53

R 151406Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8314
INFO USDOC WASHDC
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS CAIRO 13533

E.O. 1152: N/A
TAGS: ECRE, ELTN, EG
SUBJ: SUEZ CANAL TUNNEL

REF: CAIRO 9960

1. AUGUST 9 CAIRO PRESS REPORTS THAT SCHEDULE HAS BEEN SET FOR FURTHER WORK ON AND EVENTUAL COMPLETION OF SUB-SUEZ CANAL TUNNEL AT EL SHATT, NORTH OF SUEZ CITY. STORIES REFER TO MEETINGS OF TECHNICAL COMMITTEE FOR PROJECT, INCLUDING U.S. AND BRITISH CONSULTANTS, TO DISCUSS PLANS.

2. ACCORDING PRESS, A SMALL (4-METER DIAMETER) TEST TUNNEL, ON WHICH WORK IS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN NEXT MONTH, WILL BE DUG UNDER THE CANAL FOLLOWING THE COURSE EVENTUALLY TO BE TAKEN BY THE FINAL, MUCH LARGER, TUNNEL. THIS WILL ENABLE ENGINEERS TO EXPLORE UNDERGROUND CONDITIONS.

3. WORK ON TEST TUNNEL IS ESTIMATED TAKE 8 MONTHS, WITH MAY 1978 TARGET COMPLETION DATE. CONSTRUCTION OF MAIN TUNNEL IS TO BEGIN IN JULY 1978, AFTER OPPORTUNITY ASSESS RESULTS OF SMALLER ONE, AND WORK WILL TAKE, ACCORDING PRESS, 159 WEEKS. SPECIAL EQUIPMENT FOR TUNNEL CONSTRUCTION IS TO BE ORDERED FROM FOREIGN FIRMS.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 CAIRO 13533 161048Z

4. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT AMERICAN CONSULTANT REFERRED TO PARA 1 IS ENGINEERING FIRM OF TIPPETTS, ABBETT, MC CARTHY AND STRATTON (TAMS). SAME FIRM ACTS AS IN-HOUSE CONSULTANT TO MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND RECONSTRUCTION, BUT TUNNEL PROJECT BEING HANDLED BY DIFFERENT TEAM UNDER SEPARATE CONTRACT.

5. COMMENT: ABOVE INDICATES THAT THERE HAS BEEN LITTLE
PROGRESS MADE ON SOUTHERNMOST TUNNEL. COMPLETION TIME OF
MORE THAN THREE YEARS ALSO SUGGESTS TECHNICAL LIMITATIONS
ON PRESIDENT SADAT'S DESIRE TO SPEED CONSTRUCTION OF
TUNNELS. IF SCHEDULE OUTLINED IN ARTICLE IS ACCURATE,
EARLIEST DATE FOR COMPLETION IS NOW MID-1981. POSSIBLY
RELATED IS FACT THAT PRESIDENT SADAT HAS ANNOUNCED HE
WILL VISIT AL-SHATT TUNNEL WORK DURING MONTH OF RAMADAN,
HIS SECOND VISIT IN TWO MONTHS.
EILTS

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CONSTRUCTION, INTERNATIONAL CANALS, TUNNELS, CONSULTANTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 15-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977CAIRO13533
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770294-1326
Format: TEL
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770863/aaaacapf.tel
Line Count: 72
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 6820f25a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 CAIRO 9960
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1605374
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SUEZ CANAL TUNNEL
TAGS: ECRE, ELTN, EG
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6820f25a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009